

Cheraw OKs teachers, budget

By SEAN M.X. KELLEY

Personnel issues and capital construction were the main issues tackled at Tuesday night's school board meeting in Cheraw.

On the personnel front the board voted unanimously to hire Cindy Penner as a secondary math teacher at the high school and approved for budget consideration the position of a K-12 art teacher, although one has not been hired yet.

They also regretfully accepted the resignation of head football coach Tim Beebe. In his letter Beebe stated that not being a full-time employee

with the school district was hard for communications, however he did express an interest in staying on with the program and that was granted later in the meeting when the board approved its classified appointments and its coaching slate for 2005-06.

Among them was the hiring of Michael Book as head football coach. Book is currently principal but will be the school's counselor/athletic director next year. Beebe was then tabbed as his assistant.

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On the capital construction front the board heard a presentation from John Canfield who works for the governor's Office of Energy Management and Conservation.

More specifically, Canfield pitched the use of performance contracts as a way for the district to get needed repairs done now and paying them back with future savings on energy costs. The board approved the measure (see related story page.)

The board also agreed to begin looking at the sound problems in the gymnasium/auditorium. The district decided to approve a bid by Homes of Tomorrow Today to do an assessment of the sound issues and to install floor jacks for microphones and clean the system, which should begin

to help the problem. The board also approved a heating ventilation and air condition bid from Pete Peterson for the one of the district's rental's that is being renovated. The plumbing bid for the same project was granted to Lyle and Sons.

Budget hearing, approval

After opening the meeting, the board had scheduled a public hearing on the upcoming budget, however no one chose to speak so the board continued with the meeting and later approved the second reading of the budget.

The board approved the 2005-06 budget which as written would have the district generating \$2,887,805 in revenue and planning to spend \$2,887,805 in expenditures.

As far as the capital reserves budget is concerned, no funds are intended to be used for operating expenses in the

upcoming year. In the 2004-05 budget there was a shortfall of \$2,649 while in the two previous years there were increases each year of over \$70,000.

On the expenditures' side of the ledger, that is an increase of approximately \$55,000 or an increase of 4.1 percent from 2004-05. Over the last two budgets, expenditures have increased at rates of 4.9 percent in 2003-04 and 12.8 percent increase in 2002-03.

Revenue overall is increasing by approximately \$95,000 mostly due to \$80,000 increase in the beginning fund balance, which has risen each of the last four budgets from \$550,000 to \$680,000.

Trips approved for students

Four requests for conference trips or field trips were made during the meeting.

First, Tanaye Carroll and Samantha Rhode were selected

at the State Family, Career and Community Leaders of America Conference to represent Colorado at the national

FCCLA conference to be held in San Diego, Calif. July 1-7.

The girls came before the board and asked if the district would help in covering the funds for the trip.

The pair are also currently raising funds, but should that effort fall short the board did vote to pick up the remainder of the expenses.

Similarly, at the Future Business Leaders of America state conference, Corey Beebe was selected to be the Colorado Vice President representing District 7.

With this honor comes an



Corey Beebe

opportunity to travel with the rest of the Colorado delegation to Orlando. His request echoed those of the FCCLA members in the hopes that the board would help in picking up any expenses that are not covered by raising funds.

The third request was that of a field trip for the school's second graders to the Cave of the Winds and the North Pole. The students have been studying caves this year, according to teacher Becky Book. The board gave its approval for the trip.

The final trip that was approved was for the students in the gifted and talented program. They will be making a trip to the Colorado Springs area including stops at cliff dwellings, an old fashioned soda shop, a special tour of the Cheyenne Mountain Zoo and the Olympic Training Facility.